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September 12, 2008

**Media Release No. 28-2008**

## **U.S. NAVY MEDICAL PERSONNEL TREAT OVER 2,000 IN YAP**

During the week of August 25-29, a visiting team of 26 military professionals from the United States Naval Hospital Ship USNS Mercy treated 2,288 patients in Yap. This number represents over twenty percent of the main island's total population. These patients received primary medical care, optometry, dental, pharmacy and physical therapy services. Mercy dental professionals performed 357 tooth extractions and other dental procedures. Mercy optical professionals treated 804 patients and distributed 738 pairs of prescription reading glasses and 212 pair of sunglasses. Mercy pharmacists saw 1,233 patients and filled 3,425 prescriptions. Patients who were screened and found to be in need of more serious health treatment, such as medical, surgical or orthodontic procedures, were referred to the Yap Department of Health Services for treatment.

In addition to the delivery of health care services, two medical technicians from the Mercy team also repaired \$204,500 worth of non-functioning biomedical equipment at Yap State hospital. They inspected 15 machines and successfully repaired 11 of these, including one anesthesia machines, two electrosurgical units, an ICU ventilator, two defibrillators, an EKG machine, a medical x-ray machine, two dental x-ray machines, an oxygen supply monitor, and an oxygen volume monitor. They diagnosed malfunctions and recommended parts to be ordered to fix another defibrillator and a laparoscope. The two technicians also provided 42 hours of on-the-job maintenance training to Yap Hospital staff and maintenance personnel who work with these lifesaving machines.

Officials from the Yap State Governor's Office, Yap Department of Health Services, Yap Department of Education, along with Traditional Leaders and Municipal Government Officials from Tamil, Gagil, and Rull, helped plan and execute the week's activities. Also instrumental in the success of the Mercy community outreach clinics were volunteer translators and public health educators from the Yap Department of Health Services and the Micronesian Red Cross Society. At each location, Mercy military personnel worked side by side in close partnership with their Yapese counterparts.



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